

Patriot's Pen Judges' Rubric

Category	1-10 pts	10-20 pts	20-25 pts	25-30 pts	30-35 pts
Theme Knowledge (30 pts possible)	The student has not researched the theme and shows no understanding of what has been asked of them. The theme is not addressed.	Student lacks knowledge of the theme of the essay. The theme is not clearly stated or addressed. Student has a lack of understanding of the essay theme.	Student shows evidence of researching theme. Ideas are conveyed with a decent understanding of the essay topic.	Student has clearly research and understand theme of the essay completely.	
Theme Development (35 pts possible)	The theme of the essay is not developed at all. There is no information given to answer the question presented by this year's theme.	The essay doesn't address enough of the theme. As the reader, I don't feel informed on the theme from the writers perspective.	The essay addresses 1 or 2 aspects of the theme. As a reader, I'm left with several questions unanswered.	The essay addresses some of the relevant questions. As the reader, I am left quesitoning portions of the essay.	The essay clearly addresses all relevant questions about the theme. It covers who, what, where and why with no room for questioning the intention behind the essay.
Clarity of Ideas (35 pts possible)	There is no clear theme and the writer has not organized their ideas in anyway.	The writer does not have a good grasp on the concept of the theme. They do not write concisely or clearly and struggle to convey their opinions to the reader.	The writer grasped a few of the concepts of the theme and presented the essay with some clarity. There is a lack of organization of ideas.	The writer is mostly clear with their opinions and the theme of the essay. They have a good grasp of the concept but there is room for clarification of certain topics.	The writer presents themselves and their opinions clearly and concisely. They have a clear grasp on concepts presented in the essay. The essay is organized and flows well.